Attractive Fascinante

How much would you like to see
what these two lovely guys
are going to do?

Join us and find out!

Attractive Fascinante
is currently seeking volunteers
to help us spread the yaoi love.

If you're interested please visit us at:
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Attractive Fascinante
Alluring Attraction, Captivating Fascination

presents

The Forest of Shimmer

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PRESENTED BY
TAKAAKI KUSAKA

THE FOREST OF SHIMMER

The Forest of Shimmer

Stage 1 ----- 5
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drap COMICS

The Forest of Shimmer
かげろうの森
Stage 1

I WAS THIRTEEN WHEN I SAW HIS WORK FOR THE FIRST TIME
BY USING A WESTERN PAINTING METHOD TO DO A JAPANESE WORK
HE PORTRAYED HIS OWN UNIQUE STYLE
HIS WORK DEPICTED AN UNSETTLING BEAUTY AND I WAS ATTRACTED TO IT AT FIRST SIGHT.
AT THAT TIME, I WAS FULL OF ADMIRATION FOR THIS ARTIST, KITAGAWA YOUGO.

"SHUU" GALLERY...
THERE'S AN ART GALLERY OVER HERE.
REALLY!?
Yes
Do you want to photo copy it?
I'M SO GLAD SOMEONE FINALLY KNOWS ABOUT IT.
THIS MAP WAS POORLY DRAWN.
IT WOULD HAVE TAKEN QUITE SOME TIME TO FIND IT BY TAXI.
sigh
BUT IF YOU'RE TAKING THE BUS, YOU NEED AT LEAST AN HOUR TO GET THERE.

EH? HE DIDN'T SEND AN INVITATION TO YOU?
BUT THE ART EXHIBITION OF KITAGAWA YOUGO...
I DIDN'T HEAR ABOUT IT.
THIS INVITATION IS VERY EXQUISITE
BUT IT'S A BIT FAR..
I'M ONLY THE SHOP OWNER THAT SELLS PAINT MATERIALS. I WON'T GET AN INVITATION
IT TOOK 4 AND HALF HOURS BY THE BULLET TRAIN AND ANOTHER HALF AN HOUR BUS RIDE— TO GET HERE
Ha ha
It's so inconvenient.
Here
PEOPLE WHO STAY IN THIS AREA ALSO WON'T BE GOING BECAUSE IT'S TOO FAR.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
THIS JOURNEY IS REALLY LONG
BOSS!
I WANT TO BUY SOME CASEIN PAINT. DO YOU HAVE NEW STOCK?
BUT I HAVE MY OWN REASON FOR COMING ALL THE WAY HERE

YES, I'LL BRING IT TO YOU.
MOVES IN
Ah?
So tall
I WANT NAMURA'S PAINT-BRUSHES, BIG AND MEDIUM, 3 EACH
AH, SORRY!
YOU WERE TALKING?
NO— I WAS ASKING FOR DIRECTIONS.
ASKING FOR DIREC-TIONS? IN A PAINTING MATERIALS SHOP?
WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?
Thank you
"Shuu" gallery
"SHUU" GALLERY?
ARE YOU GOING THERE?
Yeah, I was thinking a painting materials shop might know.
I'M GOING THERE TO SEE AN EXHIBITION BY KITAGAWA YOUGO SENSEI!
EH? YOU CAME ALL THE WAY FOR THAT?

LET ME GIVE YOU A RIDE.
IT WON'T TAKE MORE THAN AN HOUR IF I SPEED
clank
BUT... IT'LL BE TOO MUCH TROUBLE...
ARE YOU SURE?
IT'LL TAKE 2 HOURS FOR YOU BY BUS!
IT'LL COST YOU A BOMB BY TAXI!
URGH...
You're right.
WAIT!
ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE THE PUBLIC BUS?
GOING TO THE BUS-STOP
YES. I CAN TAKE A BUS
YOU CAN SAVE TIME AND MONEY LIKE THAT.
IT'S FINE. I'M FREE...
AND IT'S ON MY WAY.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
THAT'S GREAT!

STEP
Che
Slam
OH, IT'S RARE...
THAT YOU'D COME BY
SHUU...
HERE
THANK YOU.
THESE WERE SPECIALLY REQUESTED BY MINISTER TAKAHASHI
I'LL SEND THEM OVER AFTER FRAMING.
THANK YOU FOR THE HARD WORK.
THE PERSON YOU'RE WAITING FOR ISN'T HERE YET?

THE JOURNEY FROM TOKYO TO HERE IS QUITE FAR.
It's possible though.
TWO MORE DAYS OF THE EXHIBITION.
WAITING PATIENTLY..
THAT WAS WHY I TOLD YOU DON'T HOLD AN EXHIBITION!
WHO WILL COME ALL THE WAY TO SUCH A REMOTE PLACE?
NORMAL PEOPLE WON'T DO THAT.
throw
BUT SOMEBODY WILL DEFINITELY COME.
SOME PEOPLE MIGHT FEEL THAT IT'S WORTH THE TRIP REGARDLESS OF THE LONG JOURNEY.
step
.....
I HAVE WORK TO DO. I'M LEAVING.
WORK?
I THOUGHT YOU COULD HAVE A BREAK?
MY WORK IS LIKE THAT.

Eh
WHAT?
YOU CAME HERE BECAUSE OF SUMMER HOLIDAYS?
YEAH
USING YOUR HOLIDAYS TO SEE ART EXHIBITIONS?
I also work part-time to fund my travel fees
BECAUSE I SPENT A LONG TIME SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION...
I WANT TO SEE AS MANY EXHIBITIONS AS POSSIBLE DURING MY BREAK.

SLAM
Geez

BUT SOMETIMES KITAGAWA WOULD DO IT AS A GIFT INSTEAD.
I HEARD IT'S LIKE THAT.
HUH? HIS PAINTINGS AREN'T FOR SALE?
KITAGAWA'S PAINTINGS ARE NEVER FOR SALE TO COLLECTORS.
YOU'RE REALLY SINCERE ...
I THINK IT'S MORE SUITABLE TO CALL HIM A "PAINTER" RATHER THAN AN "ARTIST".
YOU'RE RIGHT!
BUT THERE WASN'T MUCH NEWS ABOUT HIM SO PEOPLE WHO AREN'T VERSED IN PAINTINGS WOULDN'T KNOW ABOUT HIM.
BY THE WAY, HOW DID YOU COME TO KNOW ABOUT KITAGAWA?
MY FRIEND'S FATHER PASSED AWAY AND I SAW HIS WORK WHEN I WAS TIDYING UP THE PAINTINGS.
HIS FATHER WAS A COLLECTOR.
THE FAMILY WASN'T INTERESTED IN ART SO THEY LET ME TAKE WHATEVER I LIKED AS GIFTS.
IN THE END, I FOUND KITAGAWA YOUGO'S SCROLL PAINTING IN THEM.

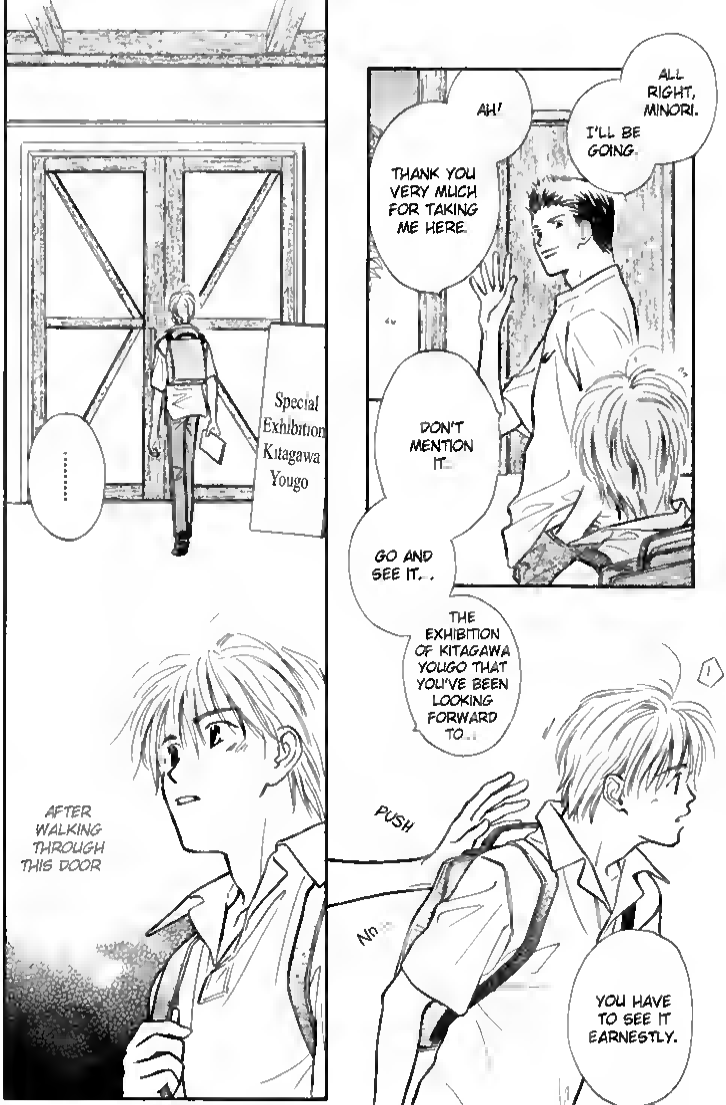
OH?
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I CAME ACROSS A JAPANESE PAINTING.
THAT WAS WHY I DIDN'T KNOW THE VALUE OF THAT WORK AT THE TIME.
HOW DO I SAY ..
I JUST COULDN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF OF IT
THAT PAINTING WAS VERY BEAUTIFUL.
IT GAVE OFF AN UNSETTLING FEELING.
LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT!
ANYWAY, YOU LOVED THAT PAINTING
AH, WE'RE HERE.

THIS HOUSE IS REALLY SUITABLE TO BE BUILT IN THE MOUNTAINS.
IS THIS A PRIVATE BUSINESS?
IT'S LIKE A RESORT.
Wah
SLAM
IT'S NOT FINISHED YET.
STILL UNDER RENOVATION...
YOU SURE KNOW THE DETAILS.
I KNOW THE OWNER OF THE GALLERY.
HEY, SHUU!
THERE IS A VISITOR...
WELCOME!
HEY.
YOU BROUGHT A VISITOR?

EH...
I WANT TO SEE THE ART EXHIBITION OF KITAGAWA YOUGO.
YES!
THANK YOU.
DO YOU HAVE AN INVITATION CARD?
THIS IS THE GUEST LIST
PLEASE WRITE YOUR DETAILS IN IT.

WE'LL BE GIVING OUT SOME GIFTS LATER
EVERY VISITOR WILL RECEIVE A SMALL PRESENT.
A phone card printed with Kinajima's work on it!
AH? THAT'S GREAT!
EH...
YOU CAME FROM TOKYO?
ALONE?

...
AH, WHAT'S WRONG?
...?
KITAGAWA WILL BE VERY HAPPY...
YOU CAME ALL THE WAY? THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
YES
I ARRIVED TODAY.
It's my holiday now.
NO.. PARDON ME
I NEVER EXPECTED SUCH A YOUNG VISITOR TO SHOW UP FOR THIS EXHIBI-TION..
YOU HAVE A NICE NAME.
Really?
THIS IS THE PAMPHLET.
I'LL GIVE ONE TO YOU.
COME AND LOOK FOR ME IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.


ALL RIGHT, MINORI. I'LL BE GOING.
AH! THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TAKING ME HERE.
DON'T MENTION IT.
GO AND SEE IT. .
THE EXHIBITION OF KITAGAWA YOUGO THAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO..
Special Exhibition Kitagawa Yougo
.....
AFTER WALKING THROUGH THIS DOOR
PUSH
No
YOU HAVE TO SEE IT EARNESTLY.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...
EH?
I CAN FINALLY GET TO SEE THE WORKS OF THE PAINTER THAT I HAVE ADMIRED FOR SO LONG
I WAS WONDERING WHOM YOU BROUGHT WITH YOU...
IT WAS "HIM".
HOW DID YOU FIND HIM?
COINCI-DENCE
I WAS SHOCKED WHEN I MET HIM IN THE MATERIALS SHOP.

IT WAS REALLY A COINCI-DENCE
BUT IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE HE'D GET HERE.
STUB OUT
THAT'S RIGHT.
THOUGH I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO BE SO EARLY.
SO?
WHAT ABOUT NOW? I HAVE TO GO BACK TO WORK.
LEAVE IT TO ME.
Clank
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SENT HIM THE INVI-TATION CARD, WEREN'T YOU?
YEAH.
BUT I DIDN'T INTEND TO PICK HIM UP.
YOU'RE SO MEAN

WAH!
AH! YES?
Did you hear me?
MINORI!
I'M SORRY.
IT'S CLOSING TIME...
AH!
O'CLOCK!!
SORRY, I WAS TOO ENGROSSED...
I'M SORRY, I'M LEAVING NOW...
NO.
IT'S FINE. THERE WEREN'T ANY OTHER VISITORS
Dear visitors...
The opening time is over
MINORI...

IT HAS BEEN A WHILE SINCE I SAW SUCH OUTSTANDING WORKS...
AND FORGOT ABOUT THE TIME.
YOU'RE SO SERIOUS.
Please
Thank you
HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT KITAGAWA'S WORKS?
I SAW A PAINTING BY HIM IN A FRIEND'S HOUSE
I FELL IN LOVE WITH IT THE FIRST TIME I SAW IT.
THE FIRST TIME.
A BIT DIFFERENT
WHAT?
YOU SAID..
WHAT IS DIFFERENT?
THE PAINTING I SAW THAT TIME...
THEN THOSE THAT WERE IN THE EXHIBITION...

I'M SORRY! I WAS JUST MAKING A REMARK...
Wah!
Wahaah
DON'T WORRY.
I'M REALLY GLAD THAT YOU'RE SO SERIOUS.
KITAGAWA WOULD BE VERY HAPPY TO KNOW THAT HE HAS SUCH A LOYAL FOLLOWER
WILL...
YOU TELL HIM ABOUT IT?
You will see him?
AH.
MAYBE THERE WAS A TIME GAP BETWEEN THE WORKS?
THE WORKS FROM THE EXHIBITION WERE DIFFERENT FROM THE PAST.
THE SCROLL PAINTING I HAVE SHOULD BE EVEN EARLIER THAN THAT..
The style is different.
YES.
WE ARE OLD FRIENDS.
EH!
REALLY!?

HIS STUDIO IS AROUND HERE.
WHEN YOU CAME UPHILL, THERE IS A SMALL ROAD ON THE LEFT.
GO UP THE HILL ALONG THAT PATH
YOU'D SEE A MANSION THAT IS STILL UNDER RENOVATION.
HE SHOULD BE PAINTING NOW.
HE ALWAYS STARTS PAINTING FROM THE EVENINGS UNTIL MIDNIGHT.
HE DOESN'T TALK MUCH AND IS A BIT ECCENTRIC.
HE DOESN'T LIKE PEOPLE TO BOTHER HIM WHEN HE'S PAINTING.

AH, IT'S ALREADY LATE.
I'M SORRY TO DELAY YOUR LEAVING.
NO.
I REALLY ENJOYED MYSELF.
WELL...
CAN I COME AND CHAT WITH YOU AGAIN TOMORROW?
OF COURSE
I'LL BE WAITING.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TODAY.
I'LL COME AGAIN TOMORROW.
IT'S GETTING DARK BE CAREFUL ALONG THE WAY

MASA-YUKI?
SHUU HERE.
"HE" JUST STEPPED OUT OF THE GALLERY
HE MIGHT BE GOING TO LOOK FOR YOU..
AND ON HIS WAY TO YOUR PLACE NOW.
COMING AGAIN TOMOR-ROW?
Ring Ring
ARE YOU STILL BUSY?
YOU'LL BE FREE AFTER TOMOR-ROW...

AH...
Haa
Haa
WHERE SHOULD I GO FROM HERE?
HE SAID THERE IS A SMALL PATH HERE..
BUT...
I SHOULDN'T COME OVER AT NIGHT.
IT SHOULD BE VERY NEAR
I HAVEN'T FOUND A PLACE TO STAY FOR THE NIGHT
"HIS STUDIO IS AROUND HERE "
WOULD HE BE UNHAPPY IF I LOOK FOR HIM SO LATE?
I DIDN'T THINK SO MUCH

STEP
Hea
"HE SHOULD BE... PAINTING NOW."
IS THIS ..
KITAGAWA'S STUDIO?

THERE'S SOMEONE IN THERE!
thump
clank
AH...
THE LIGHT IS STILL ON
thump
thump
.....
PEEK
.....

KITAGAWA YOUGO?
IS HE
NN!

TROUBLED
TROUBLED
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
HE SAW ME!
!
IS HE ANGRY?
TROUBLED TROUBLED
What should I do?
HI
DE
WHO?
OH NO!
HEY!
WHO'S THERE?
BUT .
BUT
YOU CAN COME IN IF YOU WANT TO SEE
EH...

CAN I?
COME IN IF YOU WANT TO SEE
YOU'LL DISTRACT ME IF YOU KEEP STANDING THERE.
I didn't lock the door
Minor 300pt damage
Sorry
THERE IS NO CHAIR. YOU CAN SIT ON THE FLOOR
BE CAREFUL NOT TO STEP ON THE PAINTS
Did I disturb him?
YES.
So nervous
rattle
THEN...
EXCUSE ME.
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU PAINTING?
THIS ONE? PORNO.

SWISH
IT WAS A REQUEST
I HAVE TO PAINT THE HAIRS ON THE NAKED WOMAN TOO.
POR..
EH... EH...
OH NO!
REQUEST
So detailed!
Ah
AH!
IT'S HIM..
THEN..
EXCUSE ME.
THAT'S IT!
THE STYLE OF HIS STROKE IS THE SAME AS THE ONE ON MY SCROLL!
ARE YOU..
THIS IS IT!
ARE YOU ..
KITAGAWA YOUGO SENSEI?
THIS MAN COULD BE .

BE-
CAUSE ...
I JUST WENT TO SEE YOUR EXHIBITION
IS THAT SO?
THANK YOU.
HE'S REALLY THE ONE.
YES
I SAW MANY OF YOUR WORKS!
I WAS SO TOUCHED BY THEM!
WHAT WHAT SHOULD I DO?
REALLY...
I'M SO NERVOUS RIGHT NOW
I HEARD THAT YOUR STUDIO IS NEARBY... I'M SORRY TO DISTURB YOU AT THIS LATE HOUR
ARE YOU LOST?
YOU...
ACTUALLY KNOW MY NAME.

I...
I WASN'T!
I TOOK THE WRONG WAY...
SO...
I'M SO USELESS TO GET LOST GEEZ
So ember rasping
OR DO YOU LIKE TO TAKE A STROLL IN THE MOUNTAINS?
EH?
?
IT'S DARK AND THE ROAD ISN'T QUITE EASY TO WALK ON.
THIS PLACE WAS ORIGINALLY A HOTEL.
Hehe
Fu..
SORRY.
I WAS JOKING WITH YOU.
I THINK YOU MUST HAVE THOUGHT SO AT FIRST, RIGHT?
SOME TOURISTS EVEN WANTED TO BOOK A ROOM HERE
THERE WERE ALWAYS PEOPLE WHO CAME IN HERE AFTER GETTING LOST.

ARE YOU TIRED? THE STUDIO ISN'T EXACTLY A SECRET.
You wanna some mak rea?
YOU WERE SAYING "OTHER WORKS"?
YES I HAVE A SCROLL PAINTING DONE BY YOU.
Here
Thank you
YOU HAVE IT?
YOU'RE JOKING
I DON'T REMEMBER SELLING A PAINTING TO A KID
NO! I GOT IT AFTER SOMEONE PASSED AWAY
WHAT KIND OF PAINTING?
IT'S A PAINTING OF FLOWERS AND BIRDS CALLED "FALLEN BIRDS"
WITH THE FLOWERS FROM THE SOUTHERN COUNTRIES AND TWO BIRDS...
GRAB
THEN...

ARE YOU KASAI MINORI?
EH..
YES ..
EH?

YOU...
YOU...
WAIT...
IS IT REALLY YOU...
CAN...
CAN YOU LET GO OF ME FIRST, KITAGAWA SENSEI...
MINORI...
MINORI!
KASAI MINORI.
WHAT'S...
GOING'?
WHAT...
MINORI!

REALLY?
ARE YOU REALLY "THAT" KASAI MINORI?
HOW.
DID YOU KNOW MY NAME?
"THAT"?
EH...
WHAT'S.
GOING ON..

KITAGA...
NN!
NN...
NN!
URGH...
WHAT IS GOING ON!?

grab
MINORI ..
MINORI
I CAN FINALLY SEE YOU. .
EH?

NO...
WAIT... KITAGAWA SENSEI!
STOP!
WHAT...
AH!
MINORI.
HELP ME!
NO!
To be Continued

9784877346607
1920979006485
ISBN4-87734-660-0
C0979 ¥648E
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かげろうの森

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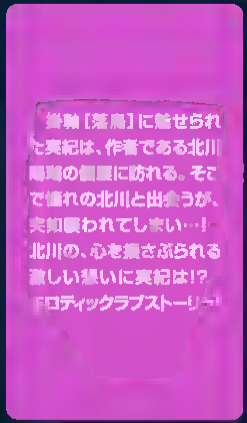

Want more love? Need more sex?

Do you feel the Allure?
Do you love the Fascination?

Are you sure this is enough for you!?
Huh? Huh?

Here...
http://community.livejournal.com/akascinante/

Attractive Fascinante

Alluring Attraction, Captivating Fascination

Don't resist the Allure...
Be part of us. Satisfaction Guaranteed...

ATTRACTIVE FASCINANTE

ALLURING ATTRACTION, CAPTIVATING FASCINATION

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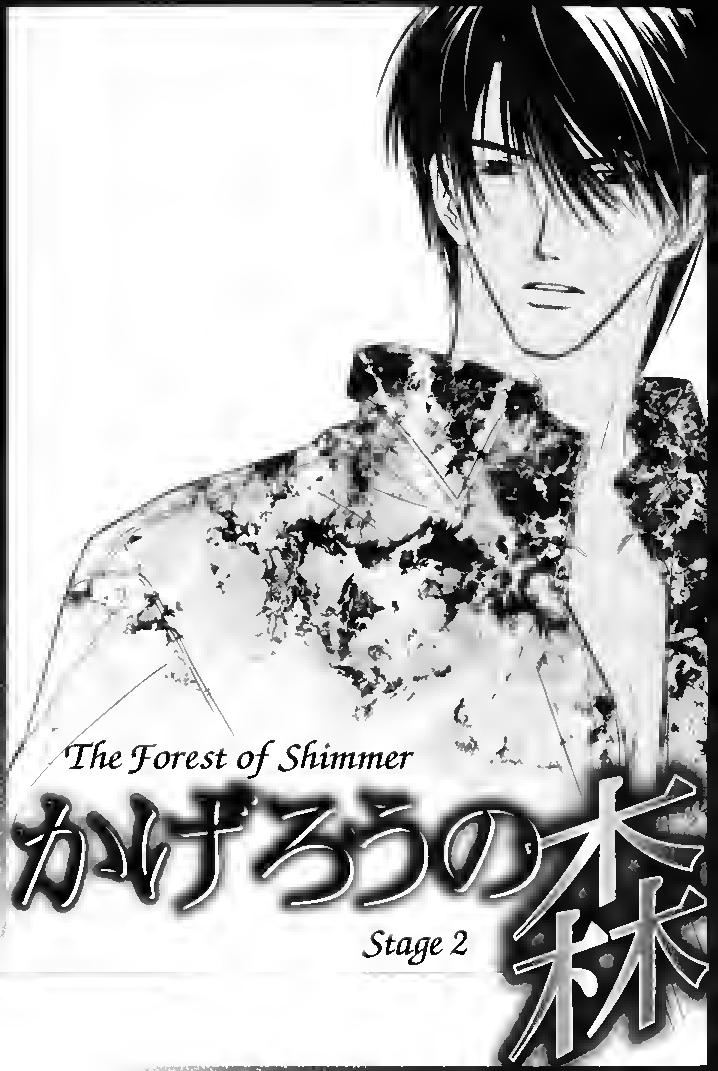

The Forest of Shimmer

かげろうの森

Stage 2

MINORI
Haa
knock

KITAGAWA SENSEI, YOUR CALL.
SENSEI...
KNOCK
URGENT.
HE SAID HE WANTED TO CONFIRM WITH YOU ABOUT THE FRAME.
IT'S SHUU.
WHO IS IT?
CALL?
I'M COMING
...

rustle
rustle
knock
SENSEI?
I KNOW. I'M COMING NOW.
rustle

CLOSE
VOICES
...
WHO?
MINORI..
SHE'S UP
NN...
IT'S ME.
WHY DID YOU CALL ME...
PAIN
!
Struggle
URGH...
Haa

I HAVE TO RUN...
HURRY ...
shiver
Open
RUN...
I HAVE TO...
Trip

URGH...
THUD
!
OPEN
.....
step

rustle
DID HE GET AWAY?

I ALREADY TOLD YOU TO DECIDE ON YOUR OWN
JUST DO IT THE USUAL WAY.
I JUST WANT TO CONFIRM IT WITH YOU
I TRUST YOU THAT'S WHY I LEAVE EVERYTHING TO YOU
DON'T CALL ME BECAUSE OF SUCH A TRIVIAL MATTER
DON'T BE SO FIERCE
DO YOU REALLY HATE TO TALK TO ME?
YOU'RE SO NOISY. YOU KNOW I'M BUSY AND YET YOU STILL CALL?
GO AND DO YOUR OWN THINGS!
YES... YES.
.....!
SHUU ...
ALWAYS DISTURBING ME...
MINORI!?

MINORI!
open
TURUS
MASA-YUKI?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?
THAT BED SHEET...
THIS...
I WAS HANGING IT OUT TO DRY...
rustle
WHEN IT WAS BLOWN AWAY BY THE WIND THIS MORNING

IT'S DIRTY I HAVE TO WASH IT AGAIN TOMORROW
MASAYUKI, DID YOU ..
A BOY?
SEE A BOY RUNNING OUT FROM HERE?
NO.
I DIDN'T SEE HIM.
YES!
A HIGH SCHOOLER WHO IS VERY MATURED
DID YOU SEE HIM?

I'M LEAVING NOW.
GOOD NIGHT.
IS HE YOUR GUEST?
I'LL MAKE SOME TEA..
NO. IT'S FINE IF YOU DIDN'T SEE HIM
YOU CAN GO AND REST.
.....
HE RAN OUT IN JUST THAT BED SHEET?
haa

MINORI..
THE BLOOD ON THE FLOOR ISN'T DRY YET...
SORRY, KITAGAWA SENSEI.
rustle
turn

NN...
URGH..
Peek
Step
Close

NN...
rustle
I'M SORRY.
URGH.
NN...
Haa

NN...
WHO...
WHO IS...
TOUCHING ME..
DRIP

NO!
STOP!
AH!
MINORI...
AH! AAAH!

NO..
NO...
DON'T COME NEAR ME..
MINORI!
PLEASE CALM DOWN!
YOU'LL HURT MORE IF YOU MOVE NOW.
WHO..
ARE YOU?
I AM KIZAKI MASAYUKI.
I AM THE HOUSEKEEPER OF THIS STUDIO AND I TAKE CARE OF KITAGAWA SENSEI.
.....

HE DOESN'T KNOW?
HE WON'T FIND OUT...
AND HE WON'T FIND HIS WAY HERE.
KITA...
DON'T WORRY.
KITAGAWA SENSEI DOESN'T KNOW YOU'RE HERE.
THIS PENTHOUSE IN THE WEST WING IS THE FURTHEST FROM HIS STUDIO.
NORMALLY, NO ONE WILL COME HERE.
KITAGAWA SENSEI'S STUDIO IS AT GROUND LEVEL. HE WON'T COME UP HERE.
HE THINKS YOU HAVE RAN AWAY.
SO YOU CAN RELAX.

"TELL ME" ?
I WILL TELL YOU WHEN THE TIME COMES.
WHY...
ARE YOU HELPING ME...
JUMP
MINORI, DON'T WORRY..
NO...
SMACK
I KNOW YOU'RE SCARED...
BECAUSE YOU JUST MET WITH SUCH A THING.
YOU MUST BE FEELING THE TREMORS NOW.
POUR

TAKE THE MEDICINE AND HAVE A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP.
DON'T WORRY.
I WON'T TOUCH YOU.
DON'T BE SCARED.
OPEN
HE DIDN'T BRING MUCH WITH HIM.
IT'S EASY TO HIDE THEM WITHOUT GETTING FOUND OUT.
YEAH.
MINORI'S?

SHUU, LOOK.
HE SWITCHED OFF THE LIGHTS
knock knock
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT...
YOUKOU HAS BEEN HOLDING SUCH STRONG FEELINGS FOR HIM.
MASAYUKI.
IT'S ME.
COME IN, SHUU.
HE MUST BE REFLECTING ON WHAT HE HAS DONE

I'VE JUST FINISHED TREATING HIM
THAT'S GOOD. THE TIME TAKEN BY THE PHONE CALL WAS ENOUGH FOR HIM TO LEAVE THE STUDIO.
IS HE BETTER?
HE HAS SOME ABRASIONS AND SLIGHT ANAEMIA.
BUT HE WAS WORN OUT BECAUSE OF THE SHOCK
HE COULD STILL BE RUNNING A FEVER FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS.
YOUKOU THAT BASTARD IS REALLY TOO MUCH!
IT WAS A SHOCK TO ME..
THAT HE DID SUCH A THING.
I'M SORRY.
I WAS TOO CARELESS..
YOUKOU IS LIKE THAT WHEN HE'S ALL WORKED UP.
IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT.

scratch
scratch
THAT IDIOT HAS BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE HE WAS YOUNG.
HE BECAME EVEN MORE ISOLATED AFTER TAKING ON THIS JOB.
EVEN IF HE WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE HIM...
HE SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS TO A BOY WHO WAS MENTALLY UNPREPARED..
IT WAS REALLY BAD OF YOUKOU TO DO THIS ..
rustle
I THINK HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE BEFORE HE WAS RAPED BY YOUKOU.
THAT WAS WHY HE WAS SO SHOCKED.
IT'S DIFFICULT IF YOUKOU WANTS TO GET CLOSE TO HIM NEXT TIME.
Hmm
AH, HE MUST HAVE A LINGERING FEAR IN HIM NOW.
POOR BOY.
THAT'S FOR SURE. HE WOKE UP IN A STATE OF SHOCK WHEN I WAS CLEANING HIS BODY.

HE WAS TOO IMPATIENT!
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO CAME UP WITH THE EXHIBITION TO INVITE HIM OVER.
HOW WOULD I KNOW THAT YOUKOU WOULD DO SUCH A THING!?
Lower your voice. Don't disturb Minori.
Is your brother a beast?
I WAS CURIOUS.
"KITAGAWA YOUGO" IS A RENOWNED PAINTER.
PAINTER "YOUGO" AND MY YOUNGER BROTHER "YOUKOU"...
BECAME RELATED TO THIS BOY BECAUSE OF A HANGING SCROLL...
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THEY MEET EACH OTHER?
BUT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WANTED MINORI TO MEET YOUKOU, YUUSUKE.

NOW THEY MET EACH OTHER! AND IT BECAME A CASE OF RAPE!
What is your brother doing?
BULL'S EYE
Sorry
IT'S OF NO USE TO SAY ANYTHING NOW.
LET MINORI REST FIRST.
WE SHOULD AT LEAST LET HIS INJURIES HEAL UP.
AND WHAT'S NEXT? SEND HIM BACK?
WE HAVE PLENTY OF TIME.
HIS BODY WILL GET USED TO IT AS TIME GOES ON
Hmm
MAYBE
LET HIM HAVE A HOLIDAY HERE.
IT'S GOOD TO HAVE SOME GOOD MEMORIES OF HIS SUMMER HOLIDAYS.

OF COURSE NOT!
HOW COULD HE DO THAT TO MINORI!
Oh?
LET HIM CALM DOWN FIRST.
SHUU, DO YOU WANT TO LET KITAGAWA SENSEI KNOW ABOUT THIS?
WE'RE BOTH THE SAME.
YOU'RE SO EVIL...
I'm not like you
You're in this already
OKAY.
WE'LL GO BACK TO WORK FOR NOW. I'LL LEAVE HIM IN YOUR CARE, MASAYUKI.
HE'LL FIND HIS WAY HERE SOON.
IT'S GOING TO BE A BIG PROBLEM THEN.
I DON'T THINK IT'S GOOD FOR THE TWO OF THEM.
YOUKOU WILL FIND HIM IF WE LEAVE MINORI HERE.
IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT FROM WHAT WE HAD PLANNED.

To be Continued

9784877346607
1920979006485
ISBN4-87734-660-0
C0979 ¥648E
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かげろうの森

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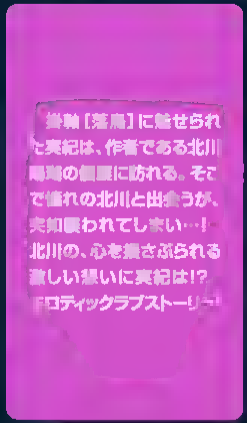

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Scanner: yes_rhade
Translator: kashinosei
Cleaner: Liselin
Editor: Pilala
Proofread: Hollyday
QC : Peilin / kashinosei
Graphics: Peilin / Cygnus

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The Forest of Shimmer

Takaaki Kusaka

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TAKAAKI KUSAKA

THE FOREST OF SHIMMER

The Forest of Shimmer

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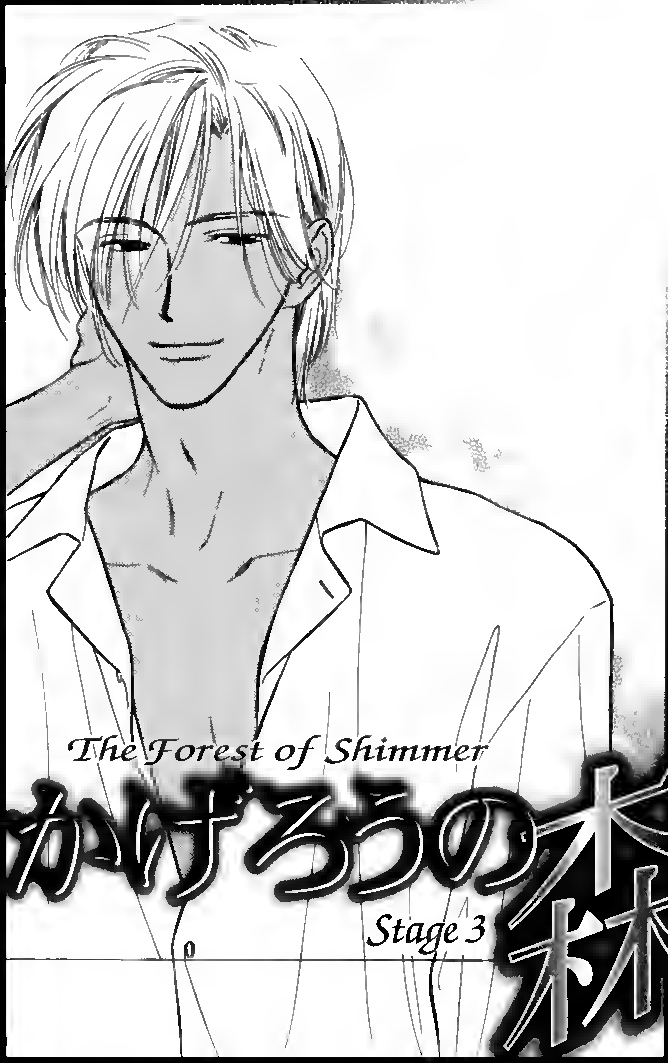

The Forest of Shimmer
かげろうの森
Stage 3

MINORI.
WHERE AM I...
SO DARK...
KITAGAWA SENSEI...
MINORI...

MINORI.
WEIRD?
HE'S SO GENTLE.
MINORI...
WHY?
AH!
I THOUGHT I'VE DIED...
HE'S DIFFERENT FROM "THAT" TIME.

Haa...
SO TIRED
I DON'T HAVE ANY STRENGTH
IT'S LIKE I HAVE BEEN RUNNING FOR A VERY LONG TIME AND AM NOW TOTALLY WORN OUT...
FROM "THAT" TIME UNTIL NOW SHOULD BE 2 DAYS
STAY HERE UNTIL YOU'RE WELL
IT'LL BE TIRING IF YOU'RE GOING TO SEARCH FOR A HOTEL NOW

Feeling very embarrassed
Can't even stand up
BLUSH
Eh
I SHOULD TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY BROTHER
DON'T WORRY!
BUT .. TO KEEP TROUBLING YOU...
Kitagawa sensei did that to him
Eat up
IT'S QUITE NEAR TO THE GALLERY
I'M NOT CHARGING YOU FOR STAYING HERE
AH
YOU CAN GO AND TAKE A LOOK AT YOUGO'S WORKS
IF YOU CAN'T SLEEP..
OH!
I KEPT QUITE A NUMBER OF HIS WORKS IN THE GALLERY.
A LOT OF THEM WEREN'T DISPLAYED TO THE PUBLIC.
Weren't displayed
I WAS REALLY HAPPY...
UPON HEARING THAT FROM HIM
Thank you very much

IS THIS REALLY KITAGAWA YOUGO'S WORK?
HUH?
SPRING
THAT'S WEIRD!
COMPARED TO THE "FALLEN BIRDS"...
THE FEELING IS DIFFERENT!
EVEN THOUGH BOTH WERE DONE BY KITAGAWA YOUGO, THERE ARE SO MANY DIFFERENCES
IS ..
THAT "FALLEN BIRDS"...
THIS PAINTING IS ABOUT 10 YEARS OLD ONE OF HIS OLD WORKS?
HE WAS JUST GAINING ATTENTION ..
I FEEL THAT IT'S DIFFERENT...
THAT FEELING .. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO PUT IT...

KITAGAWA SENSEI!!
MINORI.
STOP!
LET ME GO!
NO...
MINORI.
YOU'RE SCARING ME!

DON'T BE AFRAID.
EH...
IT'S FINE.
COME.
MINORI
WHAT'S THAT?
WEIRD .
KITAGAWA SENSEI SAID .
YES, "THAT TIME" SENSEI SAID...

I HAVE NEVER MET KITAGAWA SENSEI BEFORE
BUT HE SOUNDED AS IF HE HAD KNOWN ME FOR A LONG TIME
WHY?
HOW DID HE... KNOW MY NAME?
ARE YOU REALLY ...
KASAI MINORI?
YES...
HOW DID HE...
HE WAS SAYING ...
MINORI.
I CAN FINALLY SEE YOU...
AND...
WHY DID HE DO THAT TO ME?

MASAYUKI SHOULD BE CLEANING UP NOW.
THAT'S WEIRD..
WHY DO I FEEL LIKE THERE'S SOMEONE WATCHING ME?
SHUU..
IT'S DIFFICULT TO SKETCH WHEN THE WIND IS SO STRONG.
WHY ARE YOU SO FRUSTRATED, YOUKOU?
!
SO ANNOYING!
OR...
ARE YOU FRUSTRATED OVER SOME OTHER THINGS?

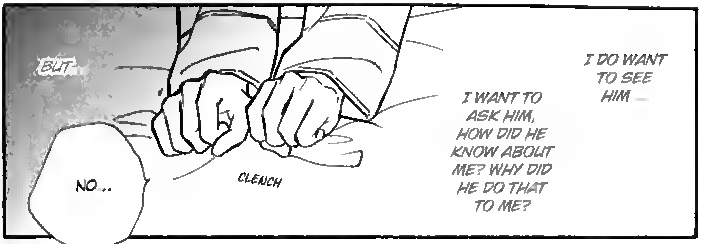
AH...
SHUU
GO ahead!
THANK YOU!
JUST LET MASAYUKI KNOW WHICH EMPTY ROOM YOU WANT TO USE.
I'M BORROWING A ROOM FROM YOU TO PUT SOME THINGS IN.
RELAX! THERE'S A PART-TIMER TENDING THE GALLERY
YOU'RE HERE AGAIN... ARE YOU WORKING AT ALL?
GRRZ..
Your hair is all messed up.
TODAY..
MINORI DIDN'T COME TODAY?
THAT'S WEIRD..
WHAT'S WITH HIM? WHY DIDN'T HE COME AT ALL?

HE SUDDENLY APPEARED IN FRONT OF ME...
I HEARD HIM SCREAMING, "STOP!" AT ME...
AND MADE ME LOSE IT.
HE MUST HAVE RAN AWAY.
BUT MY BODY JUST WOULDN'T LISTEN...
WILL I..
EVER GET TO SEE HIM AGAIN?
HOPE THE MEDICINE I BROUGHT WORKS..

IS THAT FOOD FOR MINORI?
YES.
HE SHOULD BE AWAKE BY NOW.
MASAYUKI, I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE.
YOUKOU SAID I COULD USE AN EMPTY ROOM.
I SEE
SHUU?
!
knock
MINORI?
SHUU, MASA-YUKI..
AH, WHY ARE YOU SITTING ON THE FLOOR?
ARE YOU AWAKE?
SHUU HERE

MINORI?
HUH...
AM I SO CARE?
I'M SORRY.
I CAN WALK BY MYSELF
PLEASE
TAKE YOUR HAND OFF.
YOU SHOULD BE RESTING IN BED IF YOU DON'T FEEL WELL.
CAN YOU STAND UP?
IS THAT SO?
OKAY.
YOU SHOULD BE HUNGRY.
EAT SOME FOOD
THANK YOU.
I ATE BEFORE I WENT TO BED SO I DON'T THINK..
ZZZZ
AH?

SFX: FINISHED IT ALL
完食。
THAT'S GOOD.
THE MORE YOU EAT, THE FASTER YOU'LL RECOVER.
YOU CAN GO OUT AND TAKE A WALK IF YOU'RE FEELING BETTER.
BUT..
KITAGAWA SENSEI..
HE WAS ONLY SKETCHING IN THE GARDEN.
HE WON'T COME INSIDE THE HOUSE
IS..
THAT SO?
YEAH...
BUT I REALLY ATE TOO MUCH.
NO. YOU HAVE TO EAT MORE FOR YOUR BODY TO HEAL.
DO YOU WANT TO SEE HIM?


BUT...
NO..
CLENCH
I WANT TO ASK HIM, HOW DID HE KNOW ABOUT ME? WHY DID HE DO THAT TO ME?
I DO WANT TO SEE HIM...

FURU-KAWA YOUKOU?
SO "KITAGAWA YOUGO" WASN'T HIS REAL NAME..
Ahhh..

MINORI?
YOU'RE SLEEPY? LIE DOWN NOW AND REST.
YOUR BODY IS STILL WEAK.
SO YOU SHOULD SLEEP MORE.
BUT..I JUST WOKE UP..

YOU'RE STILL SCARED OF HIM?
DON'T WORRY.
YOUKOU WON'T COME UP HERE.
YOUKOU?
HIS REAL NAME IS FURUKAWA YOUKOU.

...
YES..
OKAY, MASA-YUKI.
WE CAN START
THIS MEDICINE IS REALLY STRONG
WHERE DID YOU GET IT?
DON'T ASK SO MUCH
MASAYUKI, HOLD HIM
URGH...
NN..
HE WOULD BE SCARED IF YOU TOUCHED HIM WHILE HE'S AWAKE
OF COURSE, IT'S NOT EVEN A WEEK AFTER THAT INCIDENT
open

WE'RE LUCKY THAT KITAGAWA SENSEI DOESN'T COME UP HERE
THIS IS REALLY A GOOD HIDING PLACE.
BUT I THINK HE THOUGHT ONLY 3 DAYS HAS PASSED..
BUT YOUKOU IS NOT AN IDIOT.
I HAVE BEEN COMING HERE FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS..
HE MIGHT HAVE STARTED TO SUSPECT SOMETHING ALREADY.
Ah! He was quite busy for the past few days to really take notes about me
KEEP IT FROM HIM
HIS ABRASIONS AT THE BACK ARE ALMOST HEALED UP.
BUT IF WE WERE TO CHANGE THE ROOM WHEN YUUSUKE WASN'T AROUND, HE WOULD BE ANGRY.
flare up
High school are consultants in the training camp now
You piss me off
How dare you decide on your own when I wasn't around?

YEAH, IT'S HEALING UP WELL.
HOLD HIM.
twitch
AH...
NN...
twitch
OKAY.
ANYWAY, WE'LL WAIT UNTIL HE RECOVERS.
MASAYUKI, LET HIM LIE DOWN.
HMM...
HIS BODY IS STILL VERY SENSITIVE TO TOUCH.
I THINK THIS WILL HEAL IN A COUPLE OF DAYS.

EVENING?
I FELL ASLEEP AGAIN
HEY, YOU'RE AWAKE.
HELLO
AH, YUUSUKE
I HEARD THAT YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL
SO WORRIED
HOW ARE YOU?
I'M FINE.
SORRY TO MAKE YOU WORRY.
I THINK YOU BETTER LIE DOWN...
OTHER-WISE
I'M REALLY FINE.
I CAN'T KEEP LYING DOWN.

I think you better lie down.
I'm fine.
EH?
BUT IF I LIE DOWN TOO LONG, MY BACK FEELS SORE..
IS YOUR BODY REALLY OKAY?
EH...
AH...I GOT DRENCHED WHEN I WAS TRYING TO WATER THE PLANTS.
I BORROWED A SHIRT FROM MASAYUKI.
DID YOU CHANGE YOUR SHIRT, SHUU?
YOU WERE WEARING ANOTHER SHIRT JUST NOW.
I SEE
SFX. GROWLING
!!
I ATE SOMETHING BEFORE I SLEPT.
SO ..
MINORI, ARE YOU HUNGRY?

THAT'S WEIRD...
I JUST ATE NOT LONG AGO
I'LL ASK MASAYUKI TO COOK SOMETHING.
YOU'RE DEFINITELY FEELING BETTER IF YOU'RE HUNGRY!
Haha haha
ASK HIM TO GET ME A CUP OF COFFEE.
Haha
blush
I'M SORRY....
YUUSUKE, STOP LAUGHING.
HELLO, MASAYUKI? CAN YOU COOK SOMETHING FOR MINORI?
OKAY!
oh!
GOT A SHOCK?
YOU DIDN'T THINK THAT HE'D NOTICE ABOUT YOUR SHIRT.
IT HAS BEEN OVER A WEEK ALREADY.
I THINK THE FEAR HE HAS SHOULD NOT BE THAT MUCH NOW.

Close
MASA-YUKI?
SENSEI
IT'S ONLY FIVE.
ARE YOU HUNGRY?
NO ..
THIS IS FOR SHUU...
SHUU? HE'S HERE AGAIN?
WHAT IS HE UP TO RECENTLY?

.....
I'M NOT TOO SURE ABOUT IT.
I THINK HE HAS SOME-THING TO DO.
IS THAT SO?
DO YOU WANT TO EAT ANY THING?
NO.
I JUST CAME TO GET SOME COFFEE.
GET GOING SHUU IS WAITING FOR YOU.
AH, EXCUSE ME.
.....

knock
step
MASAYUKI, WHY DO YOU LOOK LIKE THAT?
close
THANK YOU.
SHUU
MINORI, TIME TO EAT
THANK YOU
HEY, MASA-YUKI.
YOU LOOK BAD
WHAT HAPPENED?
BE-CAUSE..

HAS HE FOUND OUT ANYTHING?
I MET HIM WHEN I WAS TAKING THE DINNER.
I'M WORRIED THAT HE'S NOTICED AND HAS FOLLOWED ME HERE.
DID YOUKOU .. SEE YOU COMING HERE?
.....
IT'D BE A PROBLEM IF YOUKOU FINDS OUT.
SHUU!
WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL TODAY
I WAS TOO CARELESS

WHAT IS IT?
HE MET YOUKOU JUST NOW
I'M WORRIED THAT YOUKOU MIGHT FIND OUT. WE BETTER NOT DO ANYTHING TODAY.
TOMORROW WE'LL MOVE MINORI TO ANOTHER PLACE
OKAY...
YOU'RE RIGHT...
Clank
knock
!
open

open
!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOUKOU!
WHY ARE ALL OF YOU...
GATHERING IN THIS ROOM!?
To be Continued

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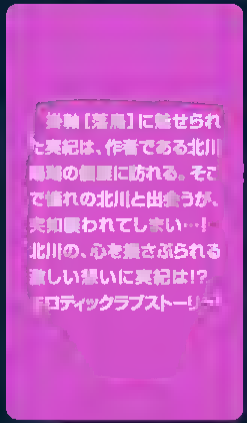

"Hey! You"
Yes...You!
You know Japanese, right?
In that case I have a proposition for you.
How about joining us as a translator?
You'll get to see all the latest releases.
Not to mention help spread the smex.
It's a sweet deal, ne?"
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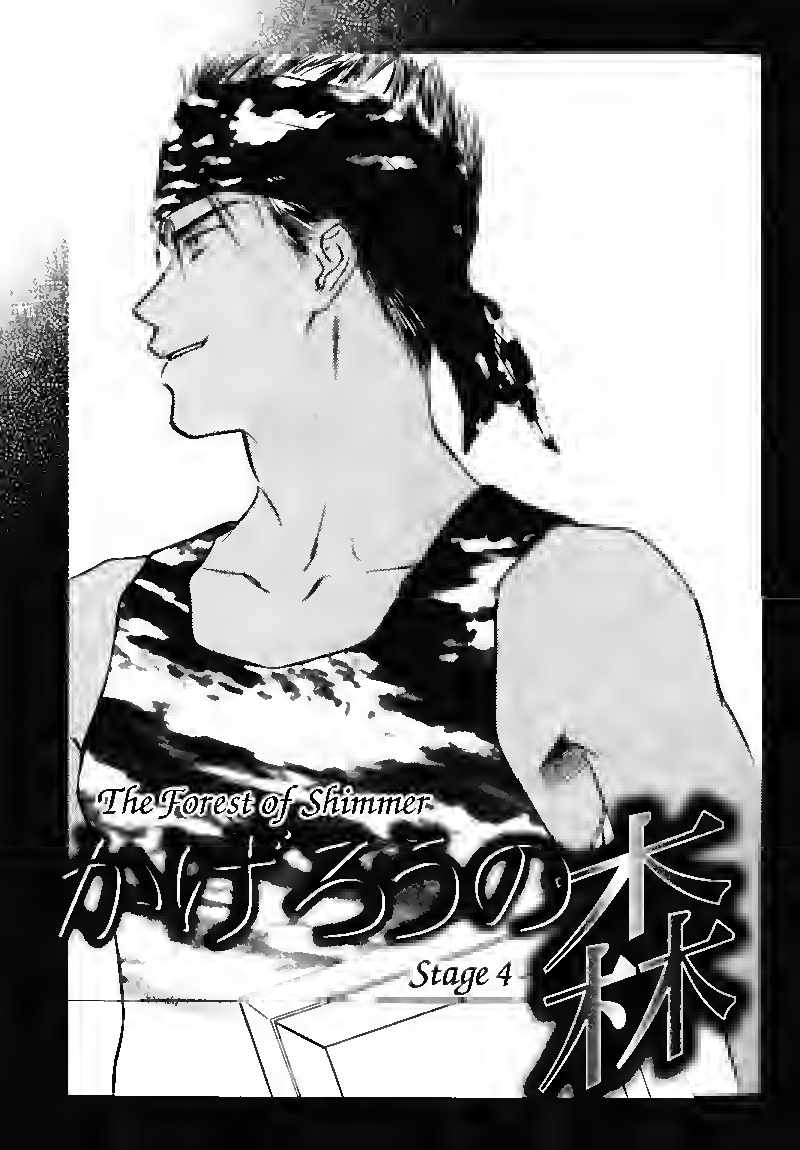
The Forest of Shimmer
かげろうの森
Stage 4

MINORI...
MINORI!
SHUU!
WHY IS MINORI HERE!?
:
THAT WAS FAST OF YOU TO FIND OUT...
MASAYUKI!
ANIKI TOO!
AH!
NERVOUS
HOW COULD YOU HIDE IT FROM ME!?

DON'T FIND FAULT WITH US
YOU RAPED AND INJURED HIM. IF IT WEREN'T FOR US—
WOULD YOU STILL BE ABLE TO HOLD HIM NOW? YOU SHOULD THANK US.
YOU KEPT HIM HERE AND WANT ME TO THANK YOU?
YOUKOU
YOU CAN TAKE MINORI
BUT YOU SHOULD REMEMBER?
THE AGREEMENT.
IF ..
YOU MEET MINORI. .
I KNOW

I REMEMBER
LEAVE US ALONE FOR NOW

YES

IS THIS OKAY?
HE'S NOT AN IDIOT.
HE WON'T DO ANY-THING RASH
RIGHT, SHUU?
Geez...

HE'S THINNER.
MINORI..
AH..
I'M SO GLAD..
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT..

THE WINDOWS LOOK DIFFERENT ...
EH?
...
URGH ...
SO GLARING ...
...
turn
KITAGAWA SENSEI!?
WAH!
sits up
MINORI!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, MINORI.
grab
trip
AH!
MINORI!
HAA..
PLEASE LET ME GO...
NO!
YOU CAN'T EVEN STAND STRAIGHT!
IT'S..
LET ME GO.
YOU STILL HAVE A FEVER! WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO.
struggle
ALL BECAUSE OF YOU THAT I BECAME LIKE THAT!

WHY..
DID YOU DO THAT TO ME?
ARE YOU ANGRY THAT I CAME OVER TO YOUR STUDIO?
OR WHY A KID LIKE ME GOT YOUR PAINTING?
OR ARE YOU ANGRY THAT I INTERRUPTED YOU WHEN YOU WERE PAINTING?
I WOULD HAVE NEVER GONE TO LOOK FOR YOU IF I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN!
NO!
IT WASN'T LIKE THAT, MINORI
YOU'RE WRONG
I WAS SURPRISED
YOU..
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO WROTE THAT LETTER..
SO I WAS TOO HAPPY..

Pant
FEEL BREATH-LESS..
Pant
Pant
ALL MY BLOOD VESSELS!
MY HEART...
Pant
EH..
I SUDDENLY
LETTER?
AH?
NN..
ARE GOING TO EXPLODE
....?!
Haa
Haa
Hhnnnp
SO HOT..
I DON'T KNOW..
MINORI?
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

WHY DID YOU...
YOU WERE ALL RIGHT JUST NOW...
Haa
YOU'RE STILL ABLE TO HOLD HIM NOW...
YOU SHOULD THANK US.
twitch
WHO'S GOING TO THANK THAT BASTARD...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, MINORI?

I'M SORRY...
NO ..
NO ..
YOU BETTER GET BACK TO BED
IF YOU CAN'T STAND UP, I'LL CALL MASAYUKI ..
DON'T CALL HIM!
MINORI?
DON'T CALL ANYONE...
I'M FINE.
BUT YOU CAN'T EVEN STAND UP...
I TOLD YOU I'M FINE!
AND MY INJURIES ARE BETTER ...
MINO...

Haa
Haa
Haa
AH...
HAA...
Haa
SA..
SAVE ME...

I'M SORRY, MINORI
NN...
HAA.
twitch
AH!
NN

stroke
Haa
AH!

MINORI...
AH
NN...
MINORI

WHO?
MINORI
GET UP AND DRINK SOME WATER
I FEEL GOOD...
Haa
touch
Nn
ARE YOU THIRSTY?
Ah it's Kitagawa sensei's voice...
Sip
HIS VOICE...
YOU SHOULD SLEEP AGAIN.
IT'S STILL EARLY.
He's here again...
ARE YOU IN PAIN?

IS SO GENTLE ...
KITA...
DON'T GET UP
I'LL GO OUT IN A WHILE
JUST BEAR WITH ME FIRST.
touch
EH?
ARE YOU AWAKE?
YOU STILL HAVE A FEVER
ARE YOU FEELING BAD?
HIS HAND IS SO COLD
I'M FEELING BETTER.
ARE YOU HUNGRY?
NOT REALLY
SFX GROWL
Ah I just said.
It's the third time al-I ready!

!!
Wah!!
Shuu
your sense
must have
gotten
squishy.
I really
like it.
URGH...
I ONLY EAT AND SLEEP WHEN I'M HERE...
So similar
Thank you
WAIT FOR A WHILE
I'LL GET SOME FOOD.
HAA HAA HAA
I got a shock!
So sudden
THE BOOKS FELL OFF THE TABLE
Tidy them up
...?

Kitagawa Yuuga sensei.
How are you? I'm sorry to write to you like this. I am a high-school girl staying in Tokyo. That day, I was at my friend's house,
Kyoto Hanei
THIS ..
WHEN I SAW THE HANGING SCROLL BY KITAGAWA SENSEI, I...
WHEN DID THIS LETTER.
SENSEI!
SENSEI!
AH .
BOARD ART ROOM

HIS NAME..
YOUGO?
KITAGAWA YOUGO..
YES! THIS IS KITAGAWA YOUGO'S "FALLEN BIRDS"!
OH, A SCROLL PAINTING?
THERE ISN'T A SIGNATURE..
THE WOODEN BOX? THERE SHOULD BE A NAME CARVED ON IT..
I'M SORRY TO DISTURB YOU WHEN YOU'RE HAVING LUNCH.
DO YOU KNOW THE ONE WHO PAINTED THIS?
EH?
EH?
CAN YOU HELP ME LOOK FOR KITAGAWA YOUGO'S ADDRESS?
SENSEI!
HOW DID YOU GET YOUGO'S PAINTING? THIS IS VERY VALUABLE..
I WANT TO WRITE TO HIM.
CAN YOU HELP ME?
HOW SHOULD I GO ABOUT ASKING FOR IT?
DETAILS FOR THE ARTISTS IN THE FINE-ARTS YEARBOOK OR THE JAPAN FINE ARTS ACADEMY, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO LOCATE...

THIS WAS...
WRITTEN...
AFTER I SAW YOUR SCROLL PAINTING.
YOU FOUND OUT?
I THINK YOU MUST BE HUNGRY.
I'M REALLY ALWAYS EATING.
munch
So greedy...

SENSEI COOKED FOR ME...
NO...
IT'S GOOD.
KITAGAWA SENSEI DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO DO HOUSEHOLD CHORES.
I'M NOT AS GOOD AT COOKING AS MASAYUKI
IT'S OKAY IF YOU DON'T WANT TO EAT.
rustle
rustle
rustle
THAT...
YOU DID RECEIVE..
YEAH I DIDN'T JOIN ANY OF THE ASSOCIATIONS
I DIDN'T KNOW YOUR ADDRESS.
I SENT IT TO THE ACADEMY...
THE ACADEMY GOT SOMEONE TO PASS IT TO ME
IT WAS A YEAR LATER WHEN I FINALLY RECEIVED THIS LETTER.

I ALWAYS THOUGHT ABOUT..
SEEING YOU.
AND..
I WAS REALLY OVERJOYED WHEN I GOT YOUR LETTER!
THANK YOU!
EH?
YOU WROTE A LETTER..
TELLING ME YOU SAW THAT PIECE OF "FALLEN BIRDS"..
I WAS SO HAPPY.

BE...
BE-CAUSE...
WHAT SHOULD I DO ..
I...
REALLY LIKE THAT PAINTING..
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT..
DON'T YOU THINK FATE IS SUCH A MARVELLOUS THING?
I DIDN'T KNOW WHO BOUGHT MY PAINTING.
THEN I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OUT OF THE BLUE...
A YEAR LATER, YOU CAME HERE
HE COULD BE TELLING ME ABOUT HIS HAPPINESS SO SERIOUSLY
DON'T YOU FIND IT UNBELIEV-ABLE?
I DIDN'T KNOW HE COULD BE SO HONEST
I KEPT THINKING WHAT KIND OF STUDENT YOU ARE ..
I REALLY WANTED TO SEE YOU!
I THINK I MIGHT HAVE FALLEN FOR KASAI MINORI A LOT EARLIER
I'M SO HAPPY UPON HEARING HIS WORDS TOO

CAN YOU GO BACK AFTER YOU'VE RECOVERED?
I SWEAR I WON'T TOUCH YOU AGAIN.
SO MINORI ..
CAN YOU STAY FOR A LONGER TIME?
SO CAN YOU PLEASE STAY HERE AND ACCOMPANY ME?

rustle
He really stayed
NN...
SO HOT...
I'LL GET SOME WATER
NN...
SHOULD BE ON THE LEFT SIDE ALONG THE CORRIDOR...
pss
pss
pss
pss
IT'S KITAGAWA SENSEI AND SHUU'S VOICES
IS SHUU HERE?
KITAGAWA SENSEI CHANGED HIS ROOM SO I DIDN'T SEE HIM AT ALL
I'LL GO AND GREET SHUU...
step

COUNTER-FEITER
STOP
OH?
YOU REALLY DECIDED?
SHUU, ARE YOU SURPRISED?
EH?
I WILL KEEP MY PART OF THE AGREE-MENT.
I WON'T PAINT ANY-MORE AFTER THIS BATCH OF WORKS.
SO YOU'RE NOT GOING TO PAINT ANY MORE...
YOUGO'S COUNTER-FEITS?

ARE YOU REALLY GOING TO STOP PAINTING?
THIS MAN ISN'T KITAGAWA YOUGO'!?
THAT'S RIGHT.
AFTER THIS BATCH OF "ASSIGNMENTS" ARE DONE...
WAIT!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I DON'T WANT TO DO ANY MORE FAKE WORKS.
To be Continued

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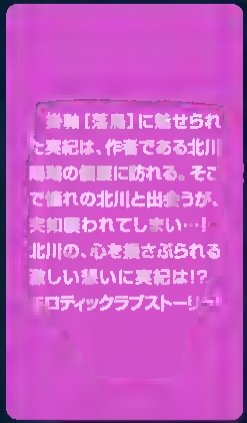

"HEY! YOU! YES...YOU!
YOU KNOW JAPANESE. RIGHT?
IN THAT CASE I HAVE A PROPOSITION FOR YOU.
HOW ABOUT JOINING US AS A TRANSLATOR?
YOU'LL GET TO SEE ALL THE LATEST RELEASES.
NOT TO MENTION HELP SPREAD THE SMEX.
IT'S A SWEET DEAL, NE?"
INTERESTED?
DROP IN AND SEE US AT:
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presents

The Forest of Shimmer

Takaaki Kusaka

Scanner: yes_rhade
Translator: kashinosei
Cleaner: Liselin
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QC : Peilin / kashinosei
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http://community.livejournal.com/afascinante/
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PRESENTED BY
TAKAAKI KUSAKA

THE FOREST OF SHIMMER

The Forest of Shimmer

Stage 1 ----- 5
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drap COMICS

The Forest of Shimmer
かげろうの森
Final Stage

KITAGAWA YOUGO'S COUNTERFEITS...
I DON'T WANT TO PAINT ANY MORE.
SO...
THIS KITAGAWA SENSEI'S STUDIO..
HIS ONII-SAN, YUUSUKE...
THE KITAGAWA YOUGO THAT SHUU AND MASAYUKI WERE TALKING ABOUT..
WERE THEY ALL LYING?
THAT WAS WHY I FELT WEIRD ABOUT THE WHOLE THING.

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE YOU...
TO BE ABLE TO SEE YOU AT LAST!
I AM SO HAPPY...
THOSE WORDS THAT HE TOLD ME THAT TIME?
AND...
THEN...
WHICH WERE COUNTER-FEITS?
IN THE EXHIBITION?
OR THAT FALLEN BIRDS?

I THINK I MIGHT HAVE FALLEN FOR YOU, MINORI
AND THOSE WORDS TOO?
IS EVERY-ONE LYING TO ME?
knock
open
Ah
MINORI!?
DID YOU HEAR US FROM OUTSIDE...

MINORI!
WAIT!
LISTEN TO ME...
SLAM
PLEASE!
OPEN THE DOOR!
Rattle Rattle
BANG
MINORI!

MINORI, LISTEN TO ME!
MINO ..
MINORI, LISTEN TO ME.
ACTUALLY..
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!
LIAR..
I SWEAR!
I REALLY AM KITAGAWA YOUGO!
LIARS .. LIARS!
SENSEI AND SHUU .. EVERYONE'S LYING TO ME!
LIAR!
YOU SAID YOU WERE DOING FAKE WORKS!
USING THOSE COUNTERFEITS ...DOING FAKE PAINTINGS!
What happened?
WHAT DID I COME HERE FOR..

I'M REALLY AN IDIOT!
I WAS SO TOUCHED BY THE WORDS FROM SOMEONE I DIDN'T KNOW IN PERSON.
I WAS REALLY HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO MEET KITAGAWA SENSEI.
bang!
MINORI!
I BEG YOU, PLEASE OPEN THE DOOR...
YOU CAN SCOLD ME AS MANY TIMES AS YOU LIKE!
THAT'S ENOUGH!
DIDN'T YOU SAY IT...

THOSE PAINTINGS...
WERE FAKE?
NN...
KITAGAWA YOUGO...
WAS MY FATHER.
AH!
IF I HADN'T OVERHEARD WHAT YOU SAID...
DID YOU INTEND TO KEEP IT FROM ME?

AFTER MY FATHER PASSED AWAY...
I CONTINUED TO PAINT USING HIS STYLE UNDER THE NAME OF "YOUGO"
THEY WERE THOSE THAT YOU HAD SEEN!
HE PASSED AWAY SIX YEARS AGO.
I LEARNED HOW TO PAINT FROM HIM.
SO THE WORKS OF "KITAGAWA YOUGO"...
WERE ALL DONE BY BOTH OF US.
WE ALWAYS WORKED TOGETHER.

BOTH OF THEM?
AT THAT TIME, I'D JUST STARTED MIDDLE SCHOOL.
MY FATHER ADORED ME AND TAUGHT ME THE SKILLS OF PAINTING
INITIALLY, I ONLY TOOK THE STUDIO AS A PLAYGROUND, BUT I STARTED TO DEVELOP AN INTEREST IN PAINTING GRADUALLY.
IN THE END, WE FINISHED A PIECE OF WORK TOGETHER
MY FATHER HADN'T EARNED HIS REPUTATION YET...
AND I WAS LEARNING HOW TO PAINT FOR FUN.

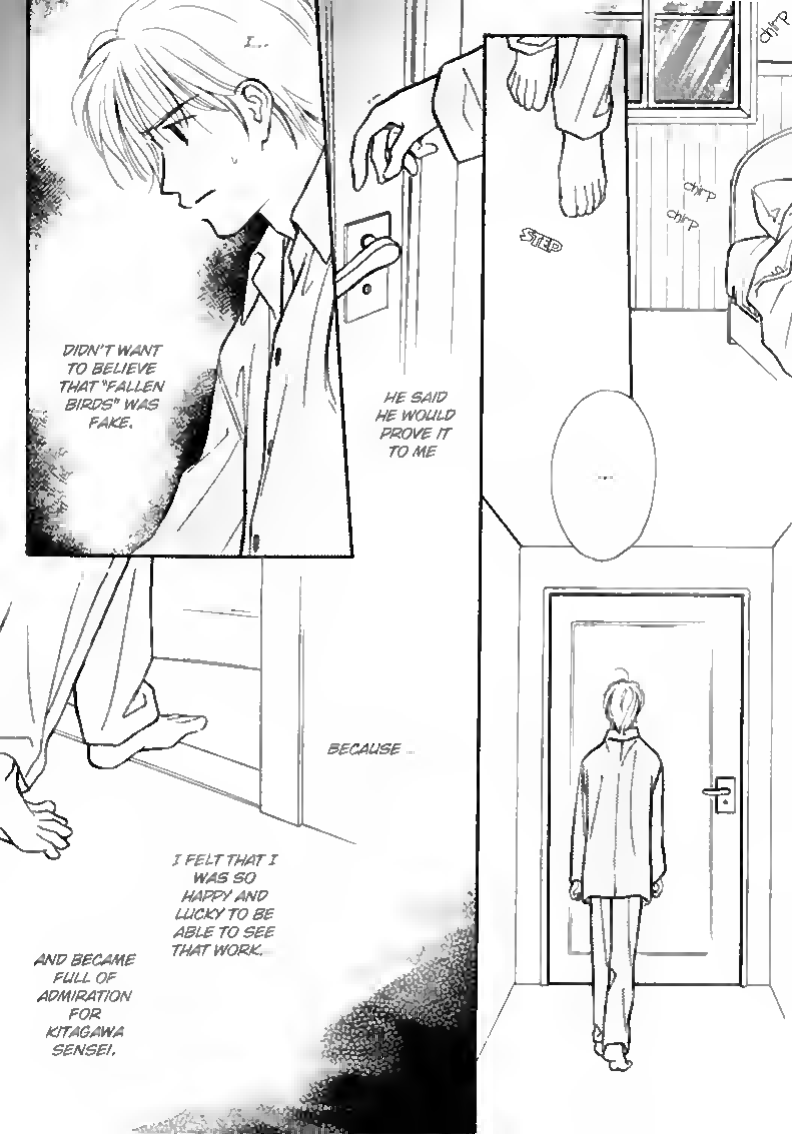
AFTER THAT, WE STARTED TO PAINT TOGETHER.
HE WAS PAINTING FOR MORE THAN A DECADE WITHOUT GETTING ANY GOOD REVIEWS
HOWEVER, THAT PIECE THAT WE DID TOGETHER ACTUALLY GOT NOMINATED.
FATHER TOOK OUR WORK TO EXHIBIT.
FROM THEN ON, "KITAGAWA YOUGO" BECAME AN ESTABLISHED JAPANESE PAINTER
I'D JUST FINISHED MIDDLE SCHOOL.
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT THINGS WOULD TURN OUT THIS WAY..
ALL THE PAINTINGS THEREAFTER WERE UNDER THE NAME OF "KITAGAWA YOUGO".
FATHER NEVER CLARIFIED THAT THOSE WORKS WERE ACTUALLY DONE BY BOTH OF US
THEN...
YUUSUKE IS GETTING BETTER AT CARVING

AFTER MY FATHER PASSED AWAY...
I WAS SO LOST.
DO YOU WANT TO LEARNING CARVING FROM HIM?
"YOU CAN DO IT."
THEN
LATER ON, YOU...
HE DECIDED FOR ME.
I HAD DECIDED...
NOT TO PAINT AGAIN.
I COULDN'T MAKE UP MY MIND ON USING THE NAME OF "KITAGAWA YOUGO"...
TO CONTINUE PAINTING.
"YOUR PAINTINGS"...

WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO BECAME ANOTHER
TO DECEIVE EVERY-ONE?
IN THE END, I CONTINUED TO PAINT AND STARTED TO GET THE HANG OF IT
"YOUGO" BECAME MORE FAMOUS
I WASN'T FEELING SO UPSET DURING THE TIME OF "FALLEN BIRDS".
!!
RENEW IT!
MINORI?
THAT PAINT-ING...
WAS FAKE!
THAT "FALLEN BIRDS" WAS A FAKE!
BECAUSE YOU CAN NEVER PAINT SUCH A BEAUTIFUL WORK!
YOU ONLY WANTED TO MAINTAIN THAT REPUTATION AND CONTINUE TO PAINT AS PART OF YOUR DUTY!
YOU'RE WRONG!

WHATEVER YOU SAY NOW IS NO USE!
THAT "FALLEN BIRDS" WASN'T LIKE THAT!
THAT PAINTING WASN'T DONE UP TO BE SOLD!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!
I WILL NEVER BELIEVE WHAT YOU SAY AGAIN!
THEN...
CAN I PROVE IT TO YOU?
I CAN PROVE TO YOU THE DIFFERENCE IN THAT PAINTING.
YOU'LL BELIEVE ME AFTER YOU SEE IT.

rustle
ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE "THAT"?
DO YOU KNOW WHERE IT'S KEPT?
YES.
CAN YOU LEND ME THE KEY TO THE GALLERY'S STORE?
SHUU
PROOF?
YOU CAN PROVE...
MINORI.
COME OVER TO MY STUDIO EARLY IN THE MORNING
SOMETHING TO SHOW ME?
I HAVE SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU.


I...
DIDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE THAT "FALLEN BIRDS" WAS FAKE.
HE SAID HE WOULD PROVE IT TO ME
STEP
CHIP
CHIP
CHIP
BECAUSE...
I FELT THAT I WAS SO HAPPY AND LUCKY TO BE ABLE TO SEE THAT WORK.
AND BECAME FULL OF ADMIRATION FOR KITAGAWA SENSEI.

I REALLY DON'T WANT IT TO BE A FAKE PAINTING
AH, MINORI...
YOU'RE HERE.
..?!
I'M SORRY TO MESS UP THE PLACE.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
rustle
YOU WANTED TO SHOW ME THESE?
THE SKETCHES FOR "FALLEN BIRDS"...
ALL OF THEM.
ALL OF THESE?

"FALLEN BIRDS" WAS..
DONE WHEN "YOUGO" WAS ALIVE
IT WAS FINISHED DURING THE TIME WHEN "YOUGO" FELT THAT HE HAD MET WITH BOTTLENECKS WHILE PAINTING IT.
THIS IS THE BEST WORK AMONG ALL THE OTHER PAINTINGS.
THERE WERE 2 BIRDS IN THE PAINTING.
HIS FATHER PAINTED ONE OF THEM.
THIS PAINTING DEPICTED AN UNSETTLING LONELINESS..
IT WAS REALLY ENCHANTING
THE "FALLEN BIRDS" IN WATER COLOUR..
DID YOU DO IT IN ONE NIGHT?
IT MAKES PEOPLE FEEL THAT HE REALLY ENJOYED PAINTING

I HAD PRACTISED FOR MORE THAN DOZENS OF THEM.
I SPENT HALF A YEAR THINKING ABOUT THE CONCEPT.
I WAS VERY TROUBLED WHEN I STARTED TO PAINT IT.
BECAUSE THAT BELONGED TO ME, FURUKAWA YOUKOU'S FIRST WORK
ONLY THAT "FALLEN BIRDS" I DIDN'T SIGN.
BECAUSE THAT WASN'T "YOUGO'S" WORK.
BUT MY ONE AND ONLY "MASTER-PIECE".

THEN WHY DID YOU SELL IT OFF?
NN... LUCKILY I KEPT ALL THE SKETCHES.
I WAS THINKING IF IN THE FUTURE...
IT'D BE GREAT IF I COULD SEE THAT PAINTING AGAIN.
YOUR LETTER SURPRISED ME AND MADE ME VERY HAPPY.
I ALMOST CRIED
I REALLY WANT TO THANK YOU.
IT WAS A COINCIDENCE...
WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO FORGET IT...

SHUU WAS AGAINST THE IDEA OF DISPLAYING THOSE COUNTERFEITS THOUGH...
BUT IT WASN'T FEASIBLE TO REJECT IT EVEN THOUGH SUCH AN UNREASONABLE PLAN WAS PROPOSED
SHUU CAME UP WITH THE IDEA OF THE EXHIBITION
HE ARRANGED FOR YOU TO COME AND LOOK FOR ME WHEN YOU SHOWED UP.
SORRY TO PUT YOU THROUGH THIS...
Of course you did.
I'M SORRY.
I MUST HAVE SHOCKED YOU.
HE WAS CONFIDENT ...
BUT I WASN'T THAT SURE THAT YOU'D TURN UP.
I WAS SO HAPPY THAT YOU REALLY DID.

I DECIDED...
NOT TO PAINT FAKE WORKS ANYMORE.
THANK YOU, MINORI.
I...
SORRY...
BUT I'M REALLY GRATEFUL TO SHUU...
IT'S BECAUSE OF HIM THAT I GOT TO MEET YOU.

MINORI, WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIS-ING TO ME?
BE-CAUSE ..
I SAID SUCH MEAN WORDS TO YOU YESTERDAY ...
IT'S FINE
YOU WEREN'T WRONG IN SAYING THEM.
I MADE THE WRONG DECISION AFTER MY FATHER'S DEATH.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GAVE ME A SECOND CHANCE MINORI.
THANK YOU, MINORI
I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU ..
AND TO LET YOU SEE MY PAINTING.

MINORI ..
ARE YOU STILL AFRAID OF ME?
Nn
MINORI?
hold
NO...
NOT ANY-MORE..
THANK GOOD-NESS..
Han
SO..

KITA-
GAWA..
AH!
Haa
MINORI ..
AH...
NN...

twitch
NN..
AH!
AH!
NO ..
AH ..AH!
lick
DON'T LET ME GO ..
MINORI..
fondle
AH...
NN..

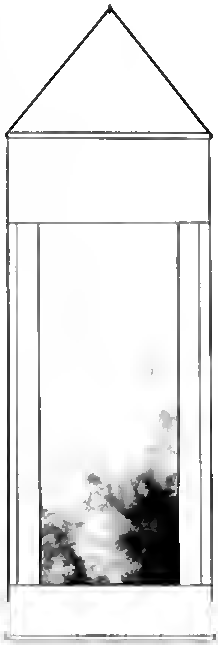
I HAD WANTED TO SEE YOU.
MINORI ...
I'VE LOVED YOU SINCE A LONG TIME AGO.
DO YOU KNOW, MINORI ...
FOR SO LONG...

THE FOLLOWING YEAR...

AT THE MOST PROMINENT SPOT OF THE HALL WAS THE FIRST SCROLL PAINTING DONE BY KITAGAWA YOUKOU, "FALLEN BIRDS".

IN A GALLERY OF A SMALL TOWN...

A NEW PAINTER HELD HIS FIRST ART EXHIBITION



THE BEAUTY OF THIS PAINTING AMAZED ALL THE VISITORS

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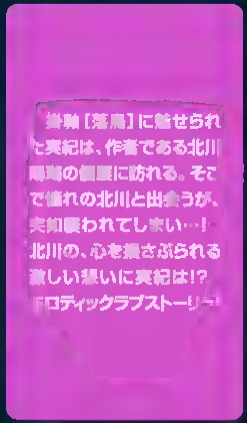

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drap COMICS

Bitter Sweet
ビター・スイート

YEAR-END
AT THIS STUDIO LOCATED IN THE MOUNTAINS...
IT'S A SCENE OF SNOW...
SE!
KITAGAWA SENSEI,
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE SOME COFFEE?
click
AH, SURE.
I NEED TO CLEAR THE SNOW LATER
The car won't be able to go out.
I WAS THINKING ABOUT RESTING FOR A WHILE

HELLO, FURUKAWA HOUSE-HOLD.
HELLO
I AM KASAI.
Ring...
Phone?
Sigh
AFTER THE EXHIBITION ENDED IN THE SUMMER...
KITAGAWA SENSEI DROPPED "YOUGO" ...
AND USED "KITAGAWA YOUKOU" INSTEAD.
ALTHOUGH HE HAS TEN YEARS OF EXPERIENCE, HE CAME BACK TO THE ART SCENE AS A NEWCOMER.
AFTERNOON, MINORI
GOOD AFTERNOON, MASAYUKI IT'S BEEN A WHILE.
THIS YOUNG TEEN WAS KEPT HERE DURING THE SUMMER.
IS KITAGAWA SENSEI STILL WORKING?
I'M NOT THAT CLOSE WITH THIS POLITE BOY
THANK YOU.
I'll call him now
HE IS HAVING A BREAK NOW. ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HIM?

I THINK.
THINGS HAVE BEEN GOING SMOOTHLY FOR THEM.
I WONDER IF HE'LL SCOLD ME IF I GO IN NOW?
Whatever.
SENSEI, A CALL FROM MINORI
MINORI?
MINORI? IT'S ME.
HAVE YOU FINISHED YOUR FINAL TERM EXAMS?

AFTER KNOWING MINORI..
KITAGAWA SENSEI IS MORE EXPRESSIVE NOW
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN HIM SMILING SO HAPPILY
IT HAS BEEN SNOWING HERE EVERYDAY.
BECAUSE IT'S IN THE MOUNTAINS.
YOU'LL BE SHOCKED IF YOU COME OVER AND SEE IT.

I HAVE TO PREPARE A ROOM FOR HIM
HOW ABOUT THE GUEST ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR?
OKAY.
IS MINORI COMING OVER?
YES. HE'S HAVING HIS WINTER BREAK NEXT WEEK.
I TOLD HIM I'D SHOW HIM MY NEW WORK.
HE'S ALWAYS SO RECKLESS...
IT IS GOOD WE HAVE A HAPPY ENDING
ARE YOU HAVING YOUR WINTER BREAK SOON?
OKAY, I'LL WAIT FOR YOU
DO YOU WANT AN EXTRA BED INSIDE YOUR ROOM...
Huh!?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
SO YOU WANT TO SLEEP TOGETHER IN YOUR BED? THEN I DON'T HAVE TO PREPARE...
you you you
DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
The result of talking too much

WEEKEND
HELLO, SORRY TO BOTHER YOU.
THERE WAS A PUBLIC BUS.
It's fine
IS IT COLD?
YOU SHOULD HAVE CALLED ME AND I COULD HAVE GONE TO PICK YOU UP.
THE TIME IS STILL EARLY, I WANTED TO SEE THE SCENERY...
MINORI?
ARE YOU HERE?
AH, KITAGAWA SENSEI!

KITAGAWA SENSEI, GO TO THE LIVING ROOM WITH MINORI FOR SOME COFFEE.
I'LL TAKE YOUR LUGGAGE TO YOUR ROOM.
AH, THANK YOU.
HE LOOKS JUST LIKE A KID.
You face is so cold
I was walking outside
RUSTLE
RING
RING
HELLO, FURUKAWA HOUSEHOLD.
AASAYUKI?

HEY.
SHUU?
.....
HOW ARE THINGS OVER THERE?
NN...
STILL THE SAME.
MINORI JUST ARRIVED.
OH, THAT'S FAST
IT'S GREAT. I WAS WORRYING SINCE IT WAS SNOWING RATHER HEAVILY.
YOUKOU? HE MUST HAVE BEEN OVERJOYED WHEN HE SAW MINORI?
OF COURSE...
HAHA... I thought he so too.

COME OVER TO WHERE? SHUU...
YOU'RE NOW.
I'M AT K HOTEL IN AKASAKA.
MINORI IS GOOD ENOUGH TO ACCOMPANY YOUKOU. CAN YOU COME OVER?
HUH?
SINCE MINORI HAS ALREADY ARRIVED, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE THERE
HUH?
ROOM 1251.
YOU COME OVER AFTER SETTLING MINORI IN.
AH, AIKAWA-SAN IT'S BEEN A WHILE...
HEY, WAIT! SHUU...
MY CLIENT IS HERE.
WE'LL TALK AGAIN.
.....

KITAGAWA SENSEI
MASAYUKI, YOU'RE DRESSED SO HEAVILY?
ARE YOU GOING OUT?
YES..TO TOKYO
WHAT?
NOW?
ARE YOU GOING TO LOOK FOR SHUU THERE?
URGH...
YES. HE CALLED EARLIER.
HE ACTUALLY ASKED YOU TO GO OVER IMMEDIATELY. HOW MEAN...
SHUU IS IN TOKYO?
YES HE WENT THERE FOR BUSINESS LAST WEEK.
I CAN LEAVE SENSEI FOR A WHILE SINCE MINORI IS HERE.
EH?
YOU CAN SLEEP IN THE GUEST ROOM OR IN SENSEI'S ROOM
YOU CHOOSE

AH, BUT...
IS THIS ALL RIGHT?
YOU'RE SENSEI'S HOUSE-KEEPER.
Stop hitting him
What are you saying!
SHUT UP!
PUNCH
Ouch!
DON'T JOKE AROUND.
YOU CAN'T BE COMING BACK IMMEDIATELY.
AH, IT'S OKAY
EVEN THOUGH I'M HIS BOSS, SHUU WAS THE ONE WHO PICKED HIM UP.
"PICKED HIM UP?"
?
I'M REALLY GRATEFUL TO HIM.
"ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A JOB?"
It was in Tokyo
I WAS JOBLESS AND WORKING PART TIME. SHUU BROUGHT ME BACK WHEN HE WAS ON A BUSINESS TRIP.
OH, I SEE.
You said everything.
6 months ago

HUH?
I SAW YOU HANGING AROUND HERE YESTERDAY
YOU HAVE A JOB-SEARCHING MAGAZINE WITH YOU.
DO YOU HAVE WORK EXPERIENCE?
WERE YOU FIRED?
OUR COMPANIES MERGED AND RETRENCHED A LOT OF WORKERS I WAS ONE OF THEM.

DO YOU LIKE TO DO HOUSE-WORK?
.....
WHAT?
Smile!
Con fused
COOKING, WASHING AND TIDYING
DO YOU KNOW HOW?
YES I LIVED ALONE.
THAT'S GREAT!
I FINALLY FOUND YOU
EH, YOU..
I WANT TO..
INTRODUCE A JOB TO YOU.
I WANT TO FIND A HOUSE-KEEPER...
TO TAKE CARE OF MY FRIEND
YOU JUST MET ME..
AND YOU INTEND TO TRUST ME JUST LIKE THAT?

DON'T WORRY.
I WON'T MAKE A MISTAKE
MY INTUITION IS ALWAYS VERY ACCU RATE
I WAS GRATE- FUL TO HIM FOR GETTING ME A JOB AT FIRST.
BUT...
BUT WHAT ABOUT NOW?
DID HE KNOW THAT IT'LL TAKE ME ABOUT 5 HOURS TO REACH TOKYO
ZOOM...

ding dong
1251
open
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING ..
MASA-YUKI.
I WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF MY SHOWER.
CAN YOU COME IN AND WAIT FOR ME?
Wah!

.....
I knew it
Otsu
HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT.
AREN'T YOU TAKING OFF YOUR COAT?
DID YOU JUST HAVE BUSINESS?
OR ARE YOU GOING TO LEAVE IN A WHILE?

ASKING ME TO COME TO TOKYO IMMEDIATELY SO TIRING
I CAN SEE THAT YOU'RE IN A GOOD MOOD
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
I WILL NEED TO FIND A NEW JOB
CONGRATULATIONS
YOU'LL BE VERY BUSY THEN.
WE'LL MOVE THERE ONCE YOUKOU'S EXHIBITION ENDS.
MY NEW RESIDENCE HAS BEEN DECIDED TOO.
YOUKOU'S WORKS WILL BE SHOWN THERE
Haha
THIS ONE
IT'S THE NEW ART GALLERY THAT WILL BE OPENING NEXT YEAR DURING SPRING.

THAT STUDIO IN THE MOUNTAINS IS REALLY HUGE AND THERE ARE MANY ROOMS TO MAKE USE OF
BUT IT'S NOT SUITABLE FOR STAYING IN
I MIGHT SELL IT
HE WANTS TO.
SELL THE HOUSE?
THEN...
HOUSE-KEEPER?
ACTUALLY THAT HOUSE IS SO MUCH COOLER DURING AUTUMN. BETTER THAN TOKYO
YOU CAN LEAVE IT AS A RESORT...
I DON'T HAVE TO BE THE HOUSE-KEEPER ANYMORE, RIGHT?

EH...
?
WHAT'S WITH THAT "EH"?
YOU HAVE TO MOVE TOGETHER WITH YOUR BOSS.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
AREN'T YOU COMING WITH US?
OR..
YOU INTEND TO STAY THERE ALONE...
AFTER YOUKOU AND I MOVE OUT?
LIVE ALONE?

I COULDN'T REJECT HIS SMILING FACE
IF...
I DON'T ASK YOU, YOU WON'T MOVE IN WITH ME?
THIS GUY...
AM I?
YOU'RE TOO NICE ..
YOU'RE SO MEAN. .
I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING TO HIM

OF COURSE..
IS BECAUSE OF YOU.
.....
OR..
DO YOU HAVE OTHER REASONS?
MY REASON...
"MY INTUITION IS ALWAYS VERY ACCURATE."
I'M ALWAYS HELPLESS .
DO YOU REALLY...
WANT ME TO MOVE IN?
WHEN YOU SMILE.

WHO ELSE CAN I LOOK FOR?
WHO DO YOU THINK?
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT ME TO MOVE IN?
WHO ELSE CAN YOU BE WITH OTHER THAN ME?
DON'T YOU WANT TO BE WITH ME?
AM I WRONG?
Hehe
YOU'RE TOO FULL OF YOURSELF.

SHUU.
ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE A SHOWER?
AFTER WE MOVE TO THE NEW PLACE...
DON'T GO TO YOUKOU'S PLACE ANYMORE.
AH...
MASA-YUKI.
YES?
NN... LATER.
DRY YOUR BODY FIRST.
I'LL GO GET A TOWEL.

HUH?
YOUKOU ALREADY HAS MINORI ..
AND YOU'RE MY LIVE-IN PARTNER
THIS GUY HAS ALWAYS BEEN WORKING USING HIS INTUITION.
YOU HAVE TO ACCOMPANY YOUR NEW BOSS.
HE ALWAYS GETS ME
.....
YES...
BE IT IN THE PAST OR NOW...
I JUST COULDN'T DO ANYTHING WITH THAT SMILE OF HIS

The END

9784877346607
1920979006485
ISBN4-87734-660-0
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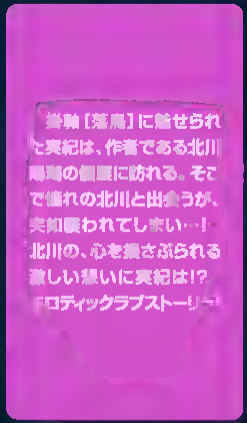

HOW MUCH WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE
WHAT THESE TWO LOVELY GUYS
ARE GOING TO DO?

JOIN US AND FIND OUT!

ATTRACTIVE FASCINANTE

IS CURRENTLY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS
TO HELP US SPREAD THE YAOI LOVE.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED PLEASE VISIT US AT:
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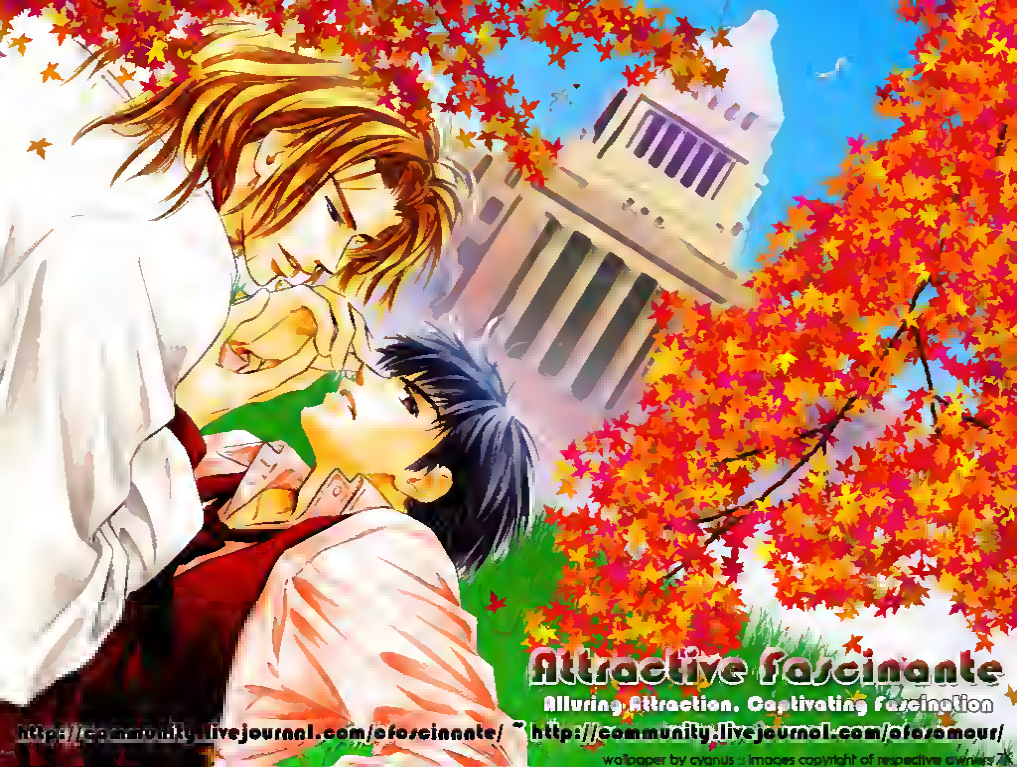
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The Town of Shimmer
かげろうの街へ。
EARLY IN THE SPRING, AT THE END OF MARCH
KITAGAWA-SENSEI VACATED THE OLD HOTEL'S STUDIO HE'D BECOME USED TO USING...
AND SET UP A NEW STUDIO IN THE CITY. HE ALSO MOVED INTO A NEW PLACE WITH THE HELP OF SHUU-SAN AND MYSELF.
Shuu-san and I live in the same apartment building
HEAVE-HO!
Helping out
SINCE SENSEI'S HOMETOWN IS WAY OUT IN THE MOUNTAINS
IT'S DIFFICULT TO MOVE EVERYTHING BETWEEN STUDIOS
ONLY KITAGAWA-SENSEI'S BROTHER YUUSUKE-SAN,
A HIGH SCHOOL SENSEI, REMAINED IN THEIR HOMETOWN FOR WORK.
It's boring here
Sigh
Sigh
Sigh

SORRY TO MAKE YOU HELP ME MOVE, MINORI.
OKAY!
Slide
KITAGAWA-SENSEI, ARE THESE SORTS OF BOTTLES USED IN YOUR PAINTING?
Carry
AH, THAT'S A BOX OF NATURAL PIGMENTS. PLEASE BRING THAT OVER HERE.
OH... PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
ANYWAY, SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SPRING BREAK, SO I'VE GOT NOTHING TO DO.
AND ISN'T IT BETTER TO HAVE LOTS OF HELP WHEN YOU MOVE?
AH, THOUGH I'M PROBABLY NOT ALL THAT USEFUL.
ANYWAY...
HMM?

SFX SURPRISE
HEY THERE!
YOU CAN FLIRT AFTER WE'VE CLEANED UP THE MOUNTAIN OF BOXES, OKAY?
!!
SWEAT
!!
IF WE DON'T HURRY AND FINISH UP, YOU WON'T HAVE ANY PLACE TO SLEEP TONIGHT, RIGHT?
THOUGH I SUPPOSE IT'LL BE ENOUGH FOR YOU TWO TO CLEAR ENOUGH SPACE TO LAY OUT ONE FUTON, HUH?
HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA
SHUU!
IN ADDITION,
I'M REALLY HAPPY..
THAT SENSEI WILL BE LIVING SO CLOSE TO ME NOW..
Lovey Dovey
MINORI..

THERE'S A CLOSET IN THE BEDROOM, SO PUT THEM THERE.
OKAY!
SLIDE SLIDE SLIDE
MASAYUKI-SAN...
WHERE SHOULD I PUT SENSEI'S WINTER CLOTHES?
WE STARTED WORKING AGAIN AT ONCE.
Heave
SHUU-SAN...
WOULD IT BE BETTER FOR ME TO LEAVE SENSEI'S FUTON IN THE BAG?
Hmm Where's the box of Japanese paintings?
RIGHT NOW I'M SETTING UP THE BED, SO WOULD YOU SPREAD IT OUT WHEN THAT'S DONE?
OKAY!
MASAYUKI-SAN...
DO YOU THINK IT'S BETTER FOR ME TO PUT SENSEI'S REFERENCE BOOKS ON THE BOOKSHELF IN THE WESTERN-STYLE ROOM, OR ON THE SHELVES IN THE STUDIO?
Perplexed
Hmm
WAIT A MINUTE, MINORI.
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS ASK SHUU AND MASAYUKI INSTEAD OF ME?
UM, WELL...
I WAS TOLD THAT SINCE YOU AREN'T INTERESTED IN OR USEFUL FOR ANYTHING OTHER THAN PICTURES, IT'D BE POINTLESS TO ASK YOU.
Shuu san said
UM, WHY'D YOU BECOME SO DEPRESSED?
Working

ISN'T THAT GREAT, YOUKOU!? AT LEAST WE WERE ABLE TO ENSURE YOU A PLACE TO SLEEP TONIGHT!
HA HA HA HA
I want you to hurry and use the double bed you bought!
I won't ask you why you decided to replace your old one with a double
HA HA
GIVE ME A BREAK! CHANGE THE SUBJECT ALREADY
Well well
MOST OF THE THINGS HAVE BEEN PRETTY MUCH SETTLED
WELL, THEN I'LL GO BACK TO MY OWN ROOM AND UNPACK MY THINGS.
WHY DON'T YOU TWO GO OUT TO EAT TO CELEBRATE THE MOVE?
AH, AND I'LL TAKE MASAYUKI WITH ME, SO .
Hey, we're going
You can just leave the cup here
Wah!
AH, THEN.. THEN, SENSEI, TOMORROW MORNING.
I'LL PREPARE BREAKFAST, AND..
UM, TOMORROW I'LL COLLECT THE TRASH AND BOXES AND THROW THEM AWAY.
YEAH, I GET IT, I GET IT.
Wah, ah.. Shuu san, please don't pull me
SLAM
Bye bye

THE NEXT DAY
AH .. UM..
WELL, SHALL WE GO OUT FOR DINNER?
AH, YES! ♥
THEN FOR TODAY, LET'S FIND A SOBA SHOP AND EAT MOVING SOBA*! ♥
CUTE ..
We can hold hands while we walk!
Cheers! ♥
OPEN
GOOD MORNING

NOTE: IT'S AN OLD JAPANESE CUSTOM TO EAT SPECIFICALLY PREPARED SOBA AFTER MOVING

OPEN
Sudden
I GUESS THEY'RE STILL SLEEPING. THEY MUST BE TIRED FROM THE MOVE...
Silence
I ALREADY SAW EVERYTHING BACK WHEN HE WAS UNDER HOUSE ARREST... BUT IF I WERE TO MENTION THAT, I'D PROBABLY BE KILLED...
No.
UM.
DON'T LOOK. YOU'RE NOT WORTHY

SUDDEN
OPEN
THE NEXT DAY.
If I don't do my job properly today
After that, he was driven out.
GOOD MORNING...
THE BATHROOM IS THE SECOND DOOR ON THE RIGHT DOWN THE CORRIDOR...
EH!
AH!
UM, YES...
Excuse me
Blush
AH!
.....
I cry awkward...

AGAIN, THE NEXT DAY.
To Today I have to properly do my job
He was chased out again yesterday
SENSEI, GOOD MORN..
Huh?
Creak
PEEK
IT'S POSSIBLE..
I'LL RUN INTO ONE OF THEM IN FRONT OF THE BEDROOM AGAIN..
NN..
AH
STO.. WAIT..
MINORI..
IT'S TIME FOR MASAYUKI-SAN TO COME.. AH..
AH, AH.. MMM
DON'T.. STOP.. NOT.. THERE..
Sneak Away

SHUU-SAN.
WOULD IT BE OKAY FOR ME TO CHANGE JOBS?
Disheartened
WHAT? DID YOU CATCH THEM IN THE ACT?
EH?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MASAYUKI?
DIDN'T YOU GO TO YOUKOU'S PLACE?
SHUU-SAN.
I FEEL SORRY FOR YOU.
I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED IT.
HA HA HA HA HA
BEING SURROUNDED BY HAPPY PARTNERS
Sensei's going to kill me...
IT LOOKS LIKE MY SUFFERING WILL CONTINUE
Please forgive me

The END

A PERSON CALLED SHOU-SAN
I'VE BEEN WONDERING ABOUT THIS SINCE THE STORY'S BEEN IN SERIALIZATION, BUT...
THAT MEDICINE YOU MADE MINORI TAKE..
WHERE ON EARTH DID YOU GET IT?
That's what I'm asking you about.
AH. I HAVE MANY SOURCES, YOU KNOW...
REALLY... YOU WERE RUNNING THAT UNPROFITABLE GALLERY OUT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE,
YOU SUDDENLY OPENED A GALLERY IN THE BEST DISTRICT IN THE METRO AREA
AND YOU ALSO MANAGED TO ACQUIRE THAT STUDIO IN THE OLD HOTEL...
WELL,
I TOLD YOU I HAVE MANY SOURCES.
THERE ARE MANY KINDS OF PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, RIGHT?
Humming
HE'S AN ENIGMATIC PERSON
The END

NOTE: THE ONIWABANSHUU WERE AN ELITE GROUP OF NI[illegible]

QUESTION
EH!?
Oniwaban?
MASAYUKI-SAN ARE YOU AN ONIWABAN-SAN*?
Demon Move
BE-CAUSE...
For example...
This
This
And such
HOWEVER YOU LOOK AT IT, YOUR WAY OF MOVING ISN'T LIKE A NORMAL PERSON.
Neither are your soul-searches
I'm sure all of your friends would come to this conclu-sion.
Eh...
IT SURE IS DIFFI-CULT.
Being a house-keeper instead
DO NINJAS ALSO HAVE A HARD TIME FINDING EMPLOYMENT BECAUSE OF THIS RECES-SION?
PLEASE STOP LAUGHING AND SAY SOMETHING TO HIM...

❀あとがき❀

★ えぬぼんです。おはつお久しぶりでございます。日下森林です。3冊目の単行本です。お手に取ってくださった皆様、ありがとうございます。小さくも楽しい1日だけど、悩んでます。

★ 前作がバレンティスを書き終えたら、すぐにまさかつぼに書かれてしまい（爆笑）「えんはそれでいいのか??」と内心ツッコミつつ、読者さんの反応を伺っていたのですが、広いお心で受け入れてくださったようで、ごりごりつっぱしっていただくことに決まりました。

★ 描き始めから、ほぼ毎日、ネームを何度もやり直し、ペン枚数にすれば、この本の倍くらいの枚数のネームを切りながら描き、なんとか、おかしの5回連載＋番外編を描き終えることができたのは、ひとえに、しんぼう強く待ってくださった担当さまと、ごはんを作ってくれた友人のおかげです。そしてもちろん、お手紙やアンケート葉書で、感想などを応援してくださった読者の皆さん。本当にありがとうございます！　これからも頑張れそうです。❀

★ 前作のコミックスで「オレと暮らせるのはいつになるから」とか書いてしまったのですが、実は日直体に急展のユーモーのイヌが我が家へやってきました。一目惚れして衝動買いでした(告白)。このあと出張先には早1番号目。「カゲうの森」を描いている間ずっと傍にくっついてストレスを解消してくれたり、いてはなかなかできないお散歩にもつきあってくれていました。この先の作品を描いても傍にいてくれる可愛いかつどうが我が家の娯楽。パンプのごはんを食べさせるのもまだまだ楽しみ優さんで頑張ります。

★ 最後になりましたが、協力、担当さま、編集部の皆様、いつもご面倒をおかけにします。これからもよろしく。担当くん。HP管理&差し入れいつもありがとう。うちゃん。ごはんばかりに変えてありがとう。読者の皆さん。これからもどうぞよろしくお願いします。

oct 2003
日下孝秋 拝

この作品を読まれた御感想・御意見・ファンレターを
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〒171-0033　東京都豊島区高田3-29-3-6F
㈱コアマガジン　drap編集部「日下孝秋先生」係
皆様からのお便り、心よりお待ちしております。

THE FOREST OF SHIMMER

ドラコミックスNo.048 [かげろうの森]

TAKAAKI KUSAKA

[初出]
かげろうの森
第1話～最終話
drap '02.10月号～'03.2月号
ビター・スイート
drap '03.3月号
(Magazine by コアマガジン)
かげろうの街へ。
フリートーク
日下さんというひと。
描き下ろし

2003年11月15日初版第1刷発行

著　者　日下孝秋（くさか たかあき）
(©TAKAAKI KUSAKA 2003)
(©CORE MAGAZINE 2003)
装　丁　菅野由紀子（plus i）
発行人　中沢慎一
編集人　安宅美佳
DTP・製版　株式会社公栄社
印　刷　三共グラフィック株式会社
発行所　株式会社コアマガジン
〒171-8553　東京都豊島区高田3-7-11
営業部　03-5950-5100

無断転写・複製・転載を禁じます。
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9784877346607
1920979006485
ISBN4-87734-660-0
C0979 ¥648E
定価：本体648円＋税

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